

Dr. H. March 3-1866

Dear Mr May - I was glad to hear from
you lately & that you are well and doing
well. I am quite as well as I could be
the subject and much better than I was
thought likely some months ago. Indeed
I have been paid so many compliments
on my good looks as of late. I suppose
because I look so much better than people
think I have a right to look after whether
stories they heard of my illness. The remedies
which effected the cure were as follows an aperient
pills and, change of scene, which I have
tried better. Of these last I took fully
80 in 12 weeks. I felt no injury or discom-
fort from these pills, and as I felt well, I suppose
they should be credited with much of the cure.

About anti-slavery matters I have been
wishing to tell you that although there are no
people of whose judgment I have a higher
opinion than my friend Garrison, Quincy,
Mr Chapman & myself, I am not convinced
that any harm can be done by the contin-
uance of the American & other anti-slavery
societies whilst they may do good by holding
together in mutual cooperation under the
true tried friends of the former slaves.
There although no legal slavery, are
still in thousands of instances really so it

perhaps in point of treatment & personal
security worse off than ever. I think those
who have withstood have a perfect right
to do so & to leave those who remain
convinced upon the colored people by doing
what they can to help them even under the
old laws. I fancy that among those who
called on this side there were abolitionists
as among the staunchest & least compromising
cooperators of the colored people & so long as
they see work to do let them do it. As to
the personal grounds of offense which were
of strong feeling & marked character like
Phillips, Foster & Pillsbury, may give to those
who differ from them I don't enter into them.
As I read the Standard I think I was con-
vinced & I certainly thought that our friend
Sawyer's reply to Phillips was far from what
I would have liked to see. I thought it heartless
candid and kindly - but I may have had reason
for talking as he did to Phillips which do not
appear. It is to me very lamentable to see
such bickerings at the close of their labors
between such men who have acted together so
long and so nobly. - I remembered Phillips remarks
in center of the nation's comments on Sumner's
"Whitewashing" speech - I agreed with him in thinking
them cold & heartless, Sumner's manner a
terrible exposure of the state of the Freedmen

and this nation was apparently much more
understand that the President should be
spoken of as "chickadee" than with all the
wrangle of the Freedmen. I don't know
how you regard Sumner. I look on
him as a man to look on with some
tremble. He is a man to the United States. He
seems to me to have done nearly all he could
do to get up all the benefits the South
passed by their votes. He is a man to the
South in this kind of way. I feel the
magnitude of the Southern people can tell for
the colored people as their slaves
acted ungenerously in their colors. Perhaps if
I were there I should feel the same. Still I
 pity the colored people & advise them to
stand up strongly for them. Such a beautiful
thing & worthy deed in all these
wretched & wretched. Such difficulties, heart
pangs & repentance - but I am sorry the
abolitionists have drawn so deeply of
their bitter cup. I read the lecture with
great interest. It is a very admirable
address. The subject is treated by both
but was educated in Ireland. His father
I think is the Times correspondent. I wish
you a letter of all kinds in the States of
Ireland, which contains my personal article
on him.

I have never known such general & un-
 bounded clamor as now prevails here for the
 public tranquillity. There would doubtless
 have been bloody work but for the measures of
 the government. But these who are at the
 the end. Such a country with such intestine
 hatreds - such peculiar religious differences &
 religious - & such a turbulent mass of an undisciplined
 it would be difficult to parallel. The mass
 of the people - the poor Catholics - are fanatical - so
 are the upper class of Protestants - the poor are
 fanatical in religion - the others in politics. They
 think nobody has any right to rule but themselves.
 The majority of them are friends of former Europe,
 of Napoleon III's empire & of despotic monarchies
 of power generally. I dislike them much more
 since I came into contact with some of them at
 Dr. Baxter.

Richard is rubbing on in Nevada & has to
 find a winter home here.

Alfred has taken the Secretaryship of a new
 Iron & Steel Company in addition to his
 other business & it is likely to do well being under
 good auspices. But he has his hands full.

There is a post letter in reply to yours. I am
 always truly glad to hear from you. You are
 now almost the only one left of my old list
 of Abolitionist correspondents.

With kindest regards to you all I am

and ever affectionately

Ed

Richard D Webb

an Richard finds it difficult now to have any influence in the past efforts to do good
 in time better means exist - even then better means exist - it would be useless to try to do good
 it would be useless to try to do good - it would be useless to try to do good - it would be useless to try to do good